



# *News from* **SALEM COUNTY**

## Office of Public Information

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### **SALEM COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION OFFERS ARTS AND HISTORY GRANTS**

(SALEM, NJ)—Freeholder Beth Timberman, liaison to the Cultural and Heritage Commission, announced that applications for the Commission's Grant Programs are available for the September 30, 2011 deadline.

"The Commission's grant programs are important sources of funding for arts and history programming," said Freeholder Timberman, "and the grant program is designed to assist small as well as large organizations."

Funding for this program is provided by grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) and the New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC).

NJSCA is an agency of state government in the Department of State established in 1966. Its mission is improve the state's quality of life by helping the arts to flourish, which it accomplishes through a dynamic program of financial and technical support services to artists and non-profit organizations. The Council has been nationally recognized as a model arts agency.

The New Jersey Historical Commission is also a division of the Department of State whose mission is to enrich the lives of the public by preserving the historical record and advancing interest in and awareness of New Jersey's past. Its grant program is the largest in the state focusing specifically on New Jersey history.

"Any organization in Salem County, including schools and municipalities, that focus on or are presenting arts and New Jersey history programs is eligible for grant funds," added Timberman. "The range of funded activities is very broad."

Arts, history, civic and social service organizations can apply for funds to provide public arts and New Jersey history programs as long as they are registered non-profits. Schools can seek funding to support curriculum projects and artist residencies. Municipalities might request funding for research leading to nominations to the NJ and National Registers of Historic Places or to develop a municipal historic preservation plan or historic district designation.

“The Cultural and Heritage Commission grants are vital sources of support for the County’s arts and history communities,” said Freeholder Director Lee Ware. “The programs and services they present not only enrich the cultural life of the County; they also are popular attractions for visitors and contribute to the county’s economic well-being.”

The Commission sponsored two workshops in August to help familiarize applicants with the revised guidelines and a broad range of agencies attended. Those that were unable to attend can still request an appointment with the County’s Director of Cultural Affairs and Tourism Information Services, James F. Turk, to discuss potential project ideas (856-935-7510 x8384; [james.turk@salemcountynj.gov](mailto:james.turk@salemcountynj.gov)). The deadline for applications is September 30, 4 pm. Arts Grants support programs and projects taking place between January 1 and December 31, 2012. History programs and projects must take place between January 1 and June 30, 2012.

The Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission is a public agency whose members are appointed by the Freeholders to represent the cultural and heritage interests of the County’s fifteen municipalities.

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